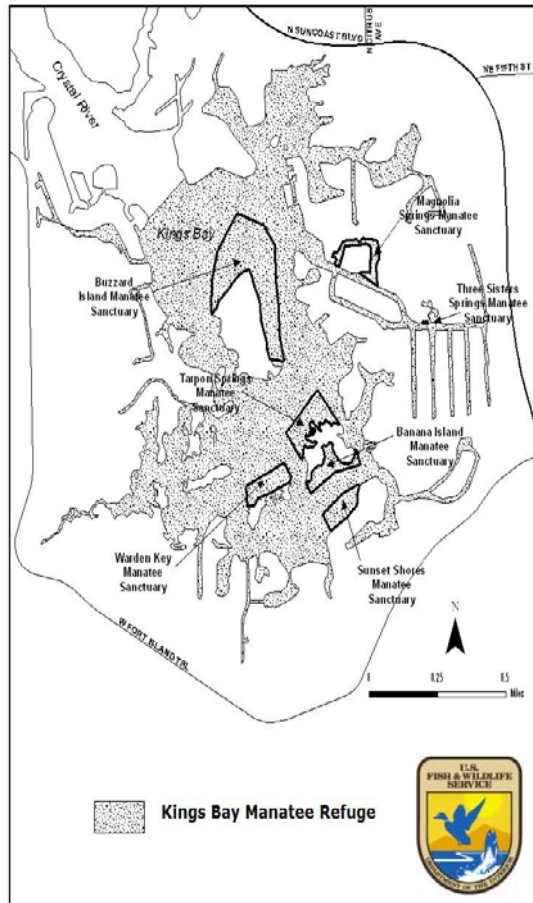


Manatee Viewing Prohibitions for Kings Bay

A new emergency rule is now in place for Kings Bay and Crystal River. The manatee viewing guidelines for Kings Bay and Crystal River are now formal, legal prohibitions and are no longer voluntary guidelines. Violation of these prohibitions can result in fine or imprisonment under 50 CFR 17.104(b) under the Endangered Species Act.

After careful analysis of data reflecting an increasing number of manatees using Kings Bay, the Service has established the Kings Bay Manatee Refuge that will be in effect from November 15, 2010 through March 15, 2011 and that will cover all of Kings Bay, including all tributaries and adjoining waterbodies, upstream of the confluence of Kings Bay and Crystal River.



Manatee Viewing Prohibitions for Kings Bay

Chasing or pursuing manatee(s).

Disturbing or touching resting or feeding manatee(s).

Diving from the surface on to resting or feeding manatee(s).

Cornering or surrounding or attempting to corner or surround a manatee(s).

Riding, holding, grabbing, or pinching or attempting to ride, hold, grab, or pinch manatee(s).

Poking, prodding, or stabbing, or attempting to poke, prod, or stab manatee(s) with anything, including your hands and feet.

Standing on or attempting to stand on manatee(s).

Separating a mother and calf or attempting to separate a mother and calf.

Separating manatee(s) from a group or attempting to separate manatee(s) from a group.

Giving manatee(s) anything to eat or drink or attempting to give manatee(s) anything to eat or drink.

Actively initiating contact with belted and/or tagged manatee(s) and associated gear, including any belts, harnesses, tracking devices, and antennae.

In addition to the above prohibited activities, the following waterborne activities are prohibited within Three Sisters Springs from November 15 to March 15: scuba diving and fishing, including with hook and line, by cast net, or spear.